



BSCC senior road racing results page

Race name: Victoria Park Criteriums

Date: 3rd Feb 2010

A Grade

1st Rob Doyle
2nd Charles Martin
3rd Phillip Orr

B Grade

1st Stuart Grigg
2nd Stuart Brien
3rd Ciaran Conaughton

C Grade

1st Lewis Piccoli
2nd Dave Peters
3rd Andrew Pearson

D Grade

1st Jason Selmon
2nd Josh Liston
3rd Andrew Stinchcombe

Race description:

A Grade

Rob Doyle put on a dominant display to take out his 2nd Small Dog Criterium for the 2009/10 season.

Riders were greeted with Hot conditions and a Hot Pace from the gun in the 10th round of the series. With Rob Doyle (Plan B Racing/Ballarat Bike Hub) and Rhys Gillett (Virgin Blue - RBS Morgans) riding off the front within the first few hundred metres, the two were unsure if they were ready to commit that early and were soon brought back into the bunch by the Cycle

City Trio of Jay Bourke, Mitch Brogden and James Crafter. This didn't faze Doyle and Gillett who continued to attack the race.

Gillett was the next up the road with Jay Bourke, and Guy Falla in Pursuit. Doyle quickly bridged across but due to a slowdown while passing C grade the race had been brought back together, missing a few casualties from the early aggression. Doyle launched again this time taking Bourke, Charles Martin and Phillip Orr (Sovereign Hill - Navajo) with him, the four were quickly out of sight of the main field and begun building on their advantage. Rhys Gillett shook off the bunch and began to bridge solo to the lead group of four, as Doyle split the lead group taking only Bourke with him.

Martin and Orr rolled through and were soon caught by a charging Gillett who then continued to pull long hard turns to peg back the advantage of Bourke and Doyle. Soon the Poker faces came on in the lead group, resulting in the two being caught within the final kilometre, Bourke staged a last assault on the race prior to the catch holding out until 300 metres to go, but in the end it was Doyle easily taking the sprint from Martin and Orr.

1st Rob Doyle (Plan B Racing)
2nd Charles Martin (Sovereign Hill)
3rd Phillip Orr (Sovereign Hill)

B Grade

A small sort of field (in numbers only) turned out for B Grade racing this week but the intensity was higher than usual. Things got off to a moderate pace as anticipation was high with A grade riders Stuart Grigg and Ciaran Conaughton coming back to regain some form for various reasons. Conaughton, fresh from an accident induced spell riding an antique bike (that looked like it weighed more than he does), exploded on the 2nd lap to put the wind up the field. The experienced heads of Michael Veal and John Polkinghorne got organized with help from Shannon Craton, Stuart's Grigg and Brien, Beth Canny and Colin Smith (aka the rest of the field) to keep Conaughton in touch and eventually brought home to the pack. A series of attacks from Polkinghorne, Conaughton and Brien took its toll on Smith and Veal and they dropped as the average pace edged to 40kph and heart rates hit, and stayed, in the red zone. Attack after attack came and was quickly brought under control with the combined efforts of Canny, Polkinghorne Grigg, Craton and Brien (Conaughton left out of this bunch as he was the aggressor most of the time!).

On the bell lap, Ciaran attacked at the top corner stringing the field out leaving Craton struggling at the rear after missing the jump. Brien was a length or 2 off the back but hung in to grab Beth Canny's wheel (who rode an outstanding race) until the pace came off enough to recover slightly. Conaughton peeled off putting Polky on the front long enough to wear him down a bit before the sprint but his efforts throughout the race to maintain contact with the relentless attacks probably cost him in the finish. Rounding the last turn Ciaran wound it up but as they hit the straight his legs were way too heavy to even get out of the saddle and Brien, who'd tucked in behind him, ducked out to sprint for the line about 150 out. Grigg, however, had timed his sprint to perfection and took the sit on Brien's wheel waiting for the right moment to launch himself. Stuart Grigg exploded from behind to pass and take line

honors from Stuart Brien by half a wheel followed by a valiant Ciaran Conaughton for 3rd place. A very hard day at the office but thoroughly enjoyable.

C Grade

It appears "C" grade is the grade to ride in at the moment with no less than 22 riders rolling up to the start of round 10 of the Small Dog crit series at Victoria Park.

With a 20 minutes plus two lap's race, Vince Mader decided the front was the best place to be and didn't bother with a warm up lap and got the speed up immediately. He was closely followed by a couple of the Gen Y's and they opened a small gap heading down the back section of the circuit. Their time at the front was short lived however as the big bunch brought them back. The group circulated at a reasonable pace for the next few laps with no-one really trying to go off the front, although if you were buried at or near the back of the bunch then it was pretty hard to tell what was going on. Scott the Mack Denno had a night he'd rather forget when a rear spoke let go on lap 4 or 5 and he had to sit the rest of the race out. Deciding she had better stir the group up, Gail Oliver put in attack that raised the heart rates and strung everyone out as the chase to bring her back began. With Gail brought back, Dave Peters took up the front and had a big go at keeping the speed high and the breath short. A few of the usuals could be seen lurking on or close to front over the next couple of laps with a fair bit of conversation between team Gen Y members. One could be forgiven for thinking that the young guns had a plan they were working to! With the time counting down Callum Body got on the front and really pushed hard as the two to go call was made staying out longer than he probably should have. The last lap bell saw the intensity increase as riders jockeyed to get close to the front and a good wheel for the final sprint, with a fair bit of elbowing having to be done to maintain a decent line. Hitting the final bend the sprint came down to a very close tussle between Lewis, what time does B grade start Piccoli and Dave Peters with Lewis managing to hold out the very fast finishing Peters. Andrew Pearson came home third not far behind them.

D Grade

Coming soon